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ALEXANDRIA GAZETTE

AND VIRGINIA ADVERTISER

PUBLISHED DAILY BY

EDGAR A. POWELL

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RAISINS AND CURRANTS.—All raisins,

whether they be Muscatels, Valentias, or whatever variety, are in reality true grapes, differing from the vine grapes only in size, or the absence of the juicy principle which to a considerable extent develops into flesh or pulp.

The best raisins are grown on the Spanish shores of the Mediterranean, the climate about Valencia and Malaga apparently suiting them better than anywhere else. But raisins are also extensively cultivated in the lower parts of Greece, as well as in other parts of the continent.

The Muscatel is the finest kind of raisins imported. The preparation of drying, upon which the value of the fruit to a great extent depends, is, in its case, conducted differently from that of the more common kinds. Usually the grapes are gathered in bunches when fully ripe, and hang up or spread out to dry. These are afterwards placed in vessels full of holes, lined with a layer of wood shavings and vanilla, with the addition of a little salt and oil. This brings about a fine color to the surface and causes the dark brown color as well as the crystallization of sugar, which is characteristic of the cheaper fruit. The best varieties are simply dried in the sun before removal from the tree. The fruit is carefully washed, and the bunches are properly arranged in the sun, and allowed to hang until dry, and being a light color when dry.

Among the many varieties of raisins known in commerce are Valentias, Denias, and Lexias from Spain; and Malaga from Malaga in Granada. All these varieties of fruit are imported into this country in what are commercially called boxes and half boxes of half a hundred weight and quarter of a hundred weight gross.

The small light colored raisins known as Sultanias we receive from Smyrna, and as everybody knows these are devoid of stones, or more properly seeds. This seedless form has been brought about by a higher state of cultivation and usually fetches a higher price in the market. A common cheap fruit is also imported from Smyrna, quite the reverse of the little Sultanias, being of a very dark color and having very large seeds.

The little black fruits which in a culinary sense are of so much value, and which common usage and the corruption of a word has taught us to call currants, are likewise a seedless variety of grapes. The word currant is derived from Corinth, which was originally the principal place of its cultivation. If the ancient Corinth no longer supplies us with the bulk of this most useful fruit, the whole of our imports are still brought from the numerous islands of the Archipelago and the neighboring shores of Asia Minor.

VALUABLE AUTOGRAPH.—Horace Greeley in his Personal Reminiscences, now publishing in the New York Ledger, says:

"A gushing youth once wrote me to this effect:

"Dear Sir—Among your literary treasures, you have, doubtless preserved several autographs of our country's late lamented poet, Edgar A. Poe. If so, and you can spare one, please enclose it to me, and receive the thanks of yours truly."

"I promptly responded as follows:

"Dear Sir—Among my literary treasures, there happens to be exactly one autograph of our country's late lamented poet, Edgar A. Poe. It is his note of hand for \$50, with my endorsement across the back. It cost me exactly \$50.75 (including postage), and you may have it for half that amount. Yours, respectfully,

"That autograph, I regret to say, remains on my hands, and is still for sale at the original price, despite the lapse of time and the depreciation of our currency."

Miscellaneous Items.

M. Indenreich, the executioner of Paris, has improved the guillotine and its management to such an extent that he can cut off a man's head in six seconds from the time he reaches the scaffold, if the victim is only accommodated. He is rich, but follows his profession from philanthropic motives.

Races and languages are intermixed in the most puzzling way in California. In reply to the question, "Can you speak English?" an Italian bootmaker in San Francisco replied with pride, "Si, senor; certamente; you bet!"

An Illinois black man ordered his wife to put grapes on the door, preparatory to beating her brains out with a chair; but she furnished the corpse by cutting the thread of his sable existence with her scissors.

The N. Y. Tribune is disposed to deny that the American people are very easily brought to elect Presidents from among merely military men who have given no evidences of statesmanship.

Speaking of leap-year, the Desert News says it doesn't make much difference out there, as the Mormon ladies have always the privilege of popping the question to a marriageable saint.

A Bridgeport firm make earnings of India-rubber. Capital idea for horse-cars, where room for one more horse is always wanted and nothing will stretch, not even the passengers' patience.

King Theodore, of Abyssinia, has been consulting the spirits of his forefathers, and they gave him even less consolation than the other spirits which he consults daily.

A young woman dogged a man on a New York ferry-boat Tuesday morning for insinuating that her name was Mary Ann, and that she was an old acquaintance.

A lace dealer tried to walk 100 hours at Birmingham, Ala., but gave out on the seventy-eighth, notwithstanding his legs were stuck full of plasters.

Northington believes in a trader who has sold a hair dye which turns their scalps a brilliant red.

PROFESSIONAL.

DR. JAMES C. HILL

SURGEON & MEDICAL PRACTITIONER.

(Graduate Interior Charity Hospital, N. O.)

Office, at his residence, on Columbus St., (Between Princess and Orleans Sts.)

de 24-3w

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

DR. LOCKERMAN,

SURGEON DENTIST.

Grad. of Balt. College of Dental Surgery, 1841

No. 44, South Washington St., ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Dr. L. respectfully informs the public that for nearly twenty years he has given special attention to the preservation of the natural teeth, and will continue to do so, and invites those who wish to save them to call on him, knowing that many have been extracted and destroyed that by proper treatment might be preserved and made useful for life. Artificial teeth inserted only as approved by professors and colleges.

Nov 20-1t

Established in 1851

JULIUS DIENELT & BELL

DENTISTS.

No. 6, No. 88, Duke street, Alexandria.

W. H. ROBERTS, DENTIST.

171, King St., Alexandria, Va.

Having had twelve years' experience in the practice of Dentistry, feels confident that he can give entire satisfaction in all cases. All operations guaranteed, and charges moderate. (oc 7)

JOHN F. POULTON, DENTIST.

Office and residence No. 12, St. Asaph St., ALEXANDRIA, VA.

All work guaranteed to give satisfaction.

Aug 7-1t

BANKERS.

JNO. W. BURKE, A. HERBERT, J. W. MAURY.

BURKE, HERBERT & CO.

BANKERS

Office—Corner King and Water Sts., ALEXANDRIA, VA.

BUY AND SELL

UNCURRENT MONEY

GOLD AND SILVER COIN

AND EXCHANGE

BONDS AND STOCKS

BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION

Sight Drafts, Checks, and Time Collections, promptly remitted for.

WILMER D. CORSE,

EXCHANGE BROKER.

Office—Nos. 57, and 59 KING STREET.

WILL DEAL IN

EXCHANGE, GOLD & SILVER COIN

AND UNCURRENT MONEY

Bonds and Stocks bought and sold on commission.

Collections made on all accessible points in the United States, and proceeds promptly remitted. Int. Rev. Stamps for sale. (no 28-1y)

MERCHANT TAILORS.

WILLIAM MURRAY,

MERCHANT TAILOR.

No. 7, NORTH FAIRFAX STREET.

Has just received his

FALL AND WINTER ASSORTMENT OF

CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, AND VESTINGS.

Reinvites his friends and customers to call and examine his stock.

mar 29-1t

88 ARNOLD & FIELD, 88

MERCHANT TAILORS.

Have removed from No. 69 to No. 88, King street, and resumed their old business, where they would be pleased to receive calls from their friends, or any one in want of a suit of good clothes. We have on hand and are receiving a good line of

CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, VESTINGS

LINENS, &c.,

which we will make to order, very cheap, for next two months, especially.

We propose to continue our

GENTS' FURNISHING DEPARTMENT

where you will always find the latest styles.

We will furnish

WHITE SHIRT

as cheap as they can be had at retail in this city.

Wanted to fit and wear well. Call on us, at No. 88, King St., 3 doors west of Royal.

aug 1-1t

WILLIAM E. ATWELL,

FASHIONABLE TAILOR.

No. 161 King St., next to Milburn's Drug Store.

Would announce to his friends and the public that he is again prepared to attend to all orders for work in his line, in his usually satisfactory style.

mar 16-1t

OILS! OILS! OILS! &c.

10 bbls Coal Oil, 2 bbls Spirits Turpentine, 10 bbls West Virginia Petroleum Oil, decanted, the best and cheapest oil for railroads, steamboats, sawmills, planing mills, &c.; Neatsfoot Oil, pure Sperm, Whale, Paraffine Oil, 1 bbl of each—all warranted of the best quality, and at the very lowest rates.

COOK & KELLEY,

38 King street.

PURCHASERS WILL TAKE NOTICE.

Wishing to close out our entire stock of Ploughs, Corn Shellers and Hay Cutters, we will offer inducements in that line. The attention of purchasers is invited.

JOHN T. CREIGHTON & SON,

dec 4 88, King street

FRESH CUCUMBER PICKLES, received

for sale by

dec 5 AVERY & DAVIDSON,

226, King street, cor. Alfred.

FRESH BUTTER,

EGGS AND TURKIES,

just received and for sale by

dec 11 HUGH & RAMSAY.

CHAMPAGNE CIDER

AND HONEY,

just received and for sale by

dec 11 HUGH & RAMSAY.

HANDKERCHIEFS, Collars and Veils

very cheap, for cash, at

dec 11 MRS. C. L. SIMPSON'S,

No. 180, King St.

FELT, Velvet and Plush Hats; also, Felt

Bo nets, very cheap, at

dec 11 MRS. C. L. SIMPSON'S,

No. 180, King St.

GROCERIES.

HARRIE ROUGH. G. WM. RAMSAY.

HUGH & RAMSAY.

NEW STORE,

No. 147, King street,

de 24-3w

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

We are now in receipt of our new stock of

CHOICE FAMILY GROCERIES,

embracing the following articles suitable for the

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS:

Fisher's Unrivalled Mince Meat.

New Layer Raisins.

Curants, Citron, Almonds, and Filberts.

Prunes, Figs, Cranberries.

Borax and Marseilles Oil.

Pineapple and Eastern Dairy Cheese.

Cross & Blackwell's English Pickles.

Loa & Ferrin's celebrated Worcester Sauce.

English Club and

Brandy Peaches, Sardines, halves & quarters.

Smyrna Figs, Spanish Olives, Jellies.

Cox's Sparkling Gelatine.

Choice Flavoring Extracts.

Maizeana, Farina, Corn Starch.

Bakers' No. 1 Chocolate, Cocoa, Brown.

Kernmouth Sugar Corn.

Proven and English Mustards.

Canned Fruits.

Mushroom and Trenton Crackers.

Pine Crackers and Torpedoes.

We have also on hand and are constantly re-

ceiving the following:

Choice Family and Extra Flour, superior

Green and Black Teas, Refined and Brown Sug-

ars, Java, Laguira and Rio Coffee, Golden

and Honey Syrups, New Orleans Molasses,

Spices, Toilet Soaps, Washing Soaps, Hominy

and Charlie Cutlets, Door Mat Carpet Tacks,

Shoe and Dust Brushes, Wood and Willow

Ware, Powder, Shot and Caps, Sugar-cured

Hams, George & Jenkin's Family Lard, Canned

Tobacco, &c.

Jameson's fresh Crackers always on hand.

dec 20

J. CLINTON MILBURN,

FAMILY GROCER,

AND DEALER IN

FINE TEAS, WINES, LIQUORS & CIGARS.

Corner Cameron and Royal Streets,

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Particular attention paid to the selection of

Choice Flour and Teas.

may 28-1t

DAVY & HARMON,

GROCERS, FEED,

AND COMMISSION MERCHANTS,

Corner of Prince and Royal Sts.,

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Special attention given to the sale of Country

Produce.

may 9-1t

F. RECKER,

DEALER IN

GROCERIES, PROVISIONS, WINES,

LIQUORS, &c., &c.

COR. KING & ST. ASAPH STS.

Country Produce bought at the highest mar-

ket price.

Goods delivered to any part of the city free of

charge.

may 6-1t

GREGORY & PAUL,

WHOLESALE DEALERS IN

GROCERIES, FLOUR AND BACON,

Nos. 27 and 29, KING STREET,

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

ap 14-1t

JOHN H. PARROTT,

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Dealer in BLANK BOOKS.

WRITING PAPER,

Wrapping Paper, Paper Bags, Envelopes,

Planes and Mill Blades, Gum Mucilage,

Gold, Alabaster and Steel Pens.

Wrapping Twine,

in short everything comprised under the term

Stationery for the Office, School Room and

Counting House.

Also, SEBASTIAN MUSIC, (some 7,000 to 8,000

pieces on hand.) The only stock of Music ever

broken up here.

Violins, Guitars, Flutes, Panjos, &c.

The very best Italian and other strings for

Guitars, Violins, &c., and musical instruments

generally. Terms—cash.

Also sole agent for the Richmond and

Manchester, Va. Paper Mills.

Any sizes and weight of Wrapping and

Printing Papers furnished at short notice, upon

INSURANCE.

MANHATTAN

LIFE INSURANCE CO.,

GWIN, BECKHAM & CO.,

AGENTS.

DR. S. E. GULICK,

MEDICAL EXAMINER.

No. 63, Prince's street,

(Between Fairfax and Water.)

au 22] ALEXANDRIA, VA.

INCORPORATED 1852. CHARTER PERPETUAL.

INSURANCE COMPANY

OF THE

VALLEY OF VIRGINIA,

Manchester, Vt.

Jos. S. Carson, Pres., Wm. L. Bent, Sec'y.

Cash Capital, \$1,750,000.

Aggregate Losses paid in 18 years, ending July

1, 1865, \$820,874.20.

Losses equitably adjusted and promptly paid.

C. W. WATKINS, Agent, Alexandria.

At office of Brent & Wattles, Attorneys at Law,

684, Prince street.